



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 12, 2002

To the Members of the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership:

I commend the members of the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership for their innovative approach to solving important ecological problems of our Nation. Wetlands provide a number of environmentally and economically important functions such as flood control, water quality protection, groundwater recharge, spawning areas for commercially important fish, and wildlife habitat. The restoration of our aquatic resources is a key component of our efforts to preserve the important environmental and economic functions that wetlands provide.

The Federal agencies of the Coastal America Partnership will continue to support the implementation of this collaborative effort. We will focus our programs, where applicable, to leverage the corporate donations that you gather through your national, regional, and state programs. Technical experts from the National and Regional Teams will advise your boards of the restoration and educational efforts that you wish to pursue.

My Administration strongly supports efforts like this that bring together a variety of resources -- public, corporate, and nonprofit -- that meet common goals and address challenging environmental and economic needs. I appreciate your dedication to making this partnership grow and succeed in restoring our wetlands and aquatic resources.

Best wishes for your continued success.